

Los Angeles – Long Beach
Federal Maritime Security Coordinator (FMSC)
Policy Letter 01-06


20 January 2006

VESSEL ACCESS CONTROL FOR SHORE BASED WORKERS

This policy memo serves to clarify requirements for vessels, facilities and persons subject to the security requirements of the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code and the Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002 for the Captain of the Port Los Angeles and Long Beach zone as defined in Title 33 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 3.55-10.

- Domestic and International Laws require facility owners and vessel operators to control access.
- Access control is the cornerstone of a security regime and the most sensitive part of any security arrangement is the facility-to-ship interface. The identification of vessel vendors, longshoremen, and other shore based workers is essential to determine who is authorized to be aboard vessels.
- Permission to be on a facility does not automatically guarantee permission to be aboard a vessel. Identification cards must be shown when a non-crewmember goes aboard a vessel.
- Any personal identification credential accepted under the access control provisions of this subchapter (if used) must, at a minimum, meet 33 CFR 101.515. The ID issuing authority must be a government authority or an organization authorized to act on behalf of a government authority or the individual's employer, union or trade association. An example would be a valid photo driver's license or a Pacific Maritime Association photo ID.
- If you fail to abide by required access control security procedures it may result in civil or criminal penalties to vessels, facilities and individuals as well as an order to cease operations.
- You may propose alternative access control measures, to be approved by the FMSC and documented as a temporary security measure in an amended Facility or Vessel Security Plan per 33 CFR Subpart H. At a minimum, these alternatives must contain:
 - disciplinary measures to discourage abuse,
 - identification of every person visiting a vessel and
 - documentation of this alternative procedure on the Declaration of Security.

The United States Coast Guard takes all breaches of security at regulated vessels and facilities very seriously. To avoid a potential Coast Guard enforcement action, all vessels and facilities should take immediate action to prevent these incidents. For additional information, questions or to report a breach of security, please contact the 24-hour Sector Los Angeles-Long Beach Command Duty Officer at 310-732-2045 or the National Response Center at (800) 424-8802.


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